

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE  
CITY OF SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SOUTH LAKE UNION STREETCAR**

**Description of proposal:** The City of Seattle, in cooperation with the U.S Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration (FTA), proposes to construct a new streetcar line to serve the downtown, Denny Triangle and South Lake Union areas of Seattle. The line would begin in the vicinity of the intersection of Westlake Avenue and Olive Way/5th Avenue in downtown Seattle and terminate in the vicinity of Fairview Avenue N. and Ward Street near the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. The line would connect these neighborhoods and destinations with the regional transit hub at Westlake Center, which will be a major connection point for light rail, buses and monorail. The project would include three new traffic signals.

The streetcar would share the street with automobile traffic. Streetcar stops would be located approximately every 1000 feet. Bi-directional, low-floor, single-car, articulated streetcars are proposed. The streetcar would be powered by an overhead electrical system.

A maintenance facility at the southwest corner of Fairview Avenue N. and Valley Street is also planned as part of this project. The maintenance facility building would be approximately 100 x 70 feet. Two additional yard storage tracks would also be provided. Daily vehicle maintenance and inspections and minor repairs would be completed at the facility.

**Proponent:** City of Seattle Department of Transportation  
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3900, P. O. Box 34966  
Seattle, WA 98124-4996

**Location of proposal, including street address, if any.** The south terminus station would be in the vicinity of the intersection of Westlake Avenue and Olive Way in downtown Seattle. The rail tracks would extend north through the Denny Triangle and South Lake Union neighborhoods via Westlake Avenue and Terry Avenue to Valley Street. The route would then be in the railbank area north of Valley east to Fairview Avenue N. The north terminus would be located in the vicinity of Fairview Avenue N. and Ward Street near the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

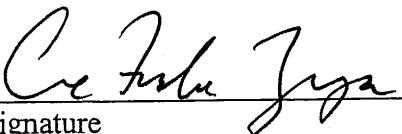
**Lead agency:** City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

The lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of issuance. Comments must be submitted by April 28, 2005.

**Issue Date:** April 14, 2005

**Responsible official:** Grace Crunican, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation

  
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Signature

4-12-05  
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Date